

Dr. William Stokes, Director
NICEATM (MD EC-17), NIEHS
P.O. Box 12233
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709

Dear Director Stokes:

I am pleased that NIEH has conducted enough studies to validate in-vitro tests of chemicals to replace live animal tests. I hope you will phase out all animal tests and replace them with in-vitro cell cultures. I am glad to hear that the LD50 Test (in which animals are force fed chemicals to estimate the dose needed to kill 50% of them) is slowly being phased out internationally and is being replaced with tests that use fewer animals or none at all for in-vitro tests work too.

I hope you can replace all the animal tests completely with in-vitro cell culture tests soon. I was glad to hear NIEH has agreed to a partial implementation of in vitro testing, to set a "starting dose" for the lethal poisoning tests, which would have the effect of further reducing the number of animals in the tests. I am pleased that NIEH has conducted enough studies to validate invitro tests of chemicals to replace live animal tests.

Sincerely, Martha Bushnell